

# NATURAL HISTORY OF VICTORIA.

Locality whence obtained.

Donor's Name.

Remarks.

## List of Specimens of Natural History Kept for the Museum

Mammalia 29 Species of which

11 Species are not marsupial (all of the genus *Canis* except the Dingo & 2 Bats)

collected during 1857 in different localities on the lower Murray and Darling

N.B. The specimens in Parenthesis ( ) have been set up the other numbers and all contained in Drawer A 4

### Insects

#### Not marsupial

*Canis Dingo*

*Hyaromys chrysogaster*

*Hapalotis ?*

from the Darling New?

*Mitchellii*

*Conditor*

*apicalis*

*Mus nova Hollandiae*

?

?

from the Darling which said New?

*Pelthaea* (Native name)

*Scotophilus*

#### Marsupialia

*Dasyurus geoffroyi*

*Thascogale lanigera*

*Calura*

*Podabrus crassicaudatus*

*Antechinus flavipes*

(?) From French Native name

*Peragalea lagotis*

*Perameles obesula*

*Perameles fasciata*

*Thalungista vulpina*

*Upphauser rufus*

?(common species)

*Chocropus (Occidentalis) ?*

*Onychogalea fraenata*

*Perlongia pinnellata*

rufescens

*Agilleyi*

*Grebyi*

# CATALOGUE OF THE MUSEUM OF

Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
661			
662			
663			
664			
665			
666			
667			
668			
669			
670			
671			
672			
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674			
675			
676			
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680			



# CATALOGUE OF THE MUSEUM OF

Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	<sup>Number</sup> Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
1	<i>Hapalotis</i>	<sup>244</sup> 2075. (2086. 2677) 1946 <sup>241</sup> stuffed	4
2			
3			
4			
5	<i>Hapalotis Mitchellii</i> <i>Mitchellii Hapalotis</i> Kahlpure Native Name	<sup>241</sup> 2510 2660 2200 2186	4
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13	<i>Darling Mouse</i>	1443 (stuffed)	1
14		<sup>244</sup> stuffed	
15	<i>Dasyurus geoffroyi</i> ? geoffroy's <i>Dasyurus</i> Ketterie Native Name	1379. 1617 1208. (2088 1883) stuffed	5
16	do do young	2635. <sup>241</sup> 2636 } stuffed 2637 } 2638 } five-stuffed	4
17			
18			
19			
20			



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on the Murray near Mondellum		There were only a few specimens of this mouse procured which is similar to <i>Mitakilla haplosis</i> but it wants the brush on the end of its tail. The fur is shorter and some what smoother to the touch as that of <i>Lepus</i> <i>Mitakilla</i> . I have kept several specimens alive which occupied a box in company with other <i>Lepus</i> . They would feed on bread etc but always made sad havoc among each other.
in the scrub on the Murray and Darling		This <i>Haplosis</i> has been procured in great numbers by the natives. Women and children dig them out of the small warren <sup>which</sup> this little animal can dig, there is only one entrance to it and at the end of the hole a sort of cave is constructed which is filled out with a layer of dry grass leaves etc. <i>H. Mitakilla</i> produces about 4 young ones at a time, which are born blind and are somewhat longer as those of the common European mouse. The female has 4 teats (?). This <i>Haplosis</i> sometimes makes most extraordinary jumps from 4 to 5' and is nocturnal in its habits. Besides the natives who eat this little animal, the delicate Owl and other night birds prey upon it and I have never inspected the stomach of the above named Owl without finding the remains of <i>Haplosis</i> etc. <sup>or of some</sup> other mouse in it. J. K.
on the Darling		This mouse was procured by the natives on the Darling River. It brought it from there and I am unable to furnish any information respecting its habits etc J. K.
Murray Scrub		This "native Cat" as it is common- ly called by the settlers is the fox along the scrub on the banks of the Murray. Though of small size, it is very ferocious and will attack anything between a mouse and a possum. It constructs a sort of nest in the hollow branches of some tree and is nocturnal in its habits. During my rambles in the scrub the natives who accom- panied me, have often cut this animal out and on one occasion I found the remains of a Sulphur Crested Cockatoo in its hole. Although marsupial, it has not a regular pouch, and though it produces 8 foetus. (the number I counted on several specimens) these never reach maturity. When they are about, from 6 to 8" long I have never found more than four young ones in its lair. Even the young ones will scowl and fly at anything

CATALOGUE OF THE MUSEUM OF

Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
<del>28</del>			
29	<i>Stulechinus flavipes</i> Roosky footed Phosco gae Marlun native name	<sup>241</sup> 1613 <sup>241</sup> 1626. 1673 (355.) 1791 <sup>241</sup>	5.
30			
31			
32			
<del>33</del>			
34	<i>Hapalotis candidior</i> (2421) 1847 <sup>241</sup> 1847 <sup>241</sup> 1847 Building Hapalotis 2420. (1851) Kohle or Köhl native name	<sup>241</sup> 2421 <sup>241</sup> 1847 <sup>241</sup> 1847 <sup>241</sup> 2420 <sup>241</sup> 1851 <sup>241</sup>	6
35			
36			
37			
38			
39			
40			

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The natives believe this animal to create rain and also to originate the rain bow. I refer here to the tribes between the Murrumbidgee and the Darling. —

Y. K.

which approached them, and those which were kept alive at the camp, would scratch and bite my hands, when I attempted to give them water after dark. — The teats of the females are arranged in a circle and when not in milk the skin on the belly is as tight as in any other marsupial animal. — I have been informed by the natives that the males during the mating season fight most furiously for their mates and I have found the skeleton of one of them at the foot of a tree from which a female specimen and 4 young ones were obtained. The penis of this *Dasyurus* like that of some other marsupials is most curiously constructed and I refer for this purpose to the drawings made by me on the spot and which through the property of the Museum are retained by Mr. Blanfordski. —

Y. K.

This is a very common form on the Banks of the Murrumbidgee. It was procured from Enchased to the Darling junction, it is nocturnal in its habits, marsupial but without a pouch and I have found a specimen on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 1857 in a hollow log which had (9) nine foetus attached to the teats. This specimen is now in the Museum at the University. It has been sometimes observed by me along the banks of the river during the day time but as those specimens which were kept alive at the camp were always running about during the night, I conclude that its habits like the other species of *Dasyurus* are nocturnal. It feeds on animal & vegetable matter and would kill a mouse as large as itself. —

Y. K.

I have been informed by the natives that this little animal was some years back very plentiful in the dense scrub of the Murrumbidgee and Darling, but that the great lakes of wild cotton dispersed through the channel had driven it from its usual haunts. Whether it has also disappeared on the Victoria side of the Murrumbidgee I cannot tell as all the specimens procured by the natives were obtained when I was encamped with them near Elmore "Look out" a sandhill about 10 miles from the Darling junction. — This animal has been sufficiently described by ~~Macquart~~ and Gould and I will only add that it produces 4 young ones at a time at least this is the number of young ones found in the womb of one of the specimens. —

There are plenty of their deserted structures in the scrub adjoining the Darling but the most of them are deserted and the nest is occupied by *Lapalosis apicalis* (?) or wide tipped *Lapalosis*.

Telliken of the natives The natives catch this animal with nets which they fix round the heap of dry sticks and of them gets on the top of the heap and with his waddy



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41			
42			
7	<i>Hapalotis apicalis</i>	<sup>A 4</sup> 1200: (1116) (2097 young stuffed)	65.
43	White tipped <i>Hapalotis</i>	(887). 933. ( <sup>A 4</sup> stuffed)	
	<i>Tullikin</i> Native Name		
44			
45			
46			
47			
48			
8	<i>Podiceps crassicaudatus</i>	<sup>A 4</sup> (1683). 2009	4
49	Thick tailed <i>Podiceps</i>	(1681) 2052	
	<i>Chondellus albus</i> cf. cf.	stuffed	
50			
51			
52			
53			
54			
55			
56			
9	<i>Actecinus</i> ?	(1923) (2040) (1660.)	3
57	<i>Tram</i> <i>Tramit</i> Native cf.	<sup>A 4</sup> stuffed	
58			
59			
60			



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removes the branches, when the hapalotis jumps and gets entangled in the net and is secured by the women or children. They consider its flesh good eating but it is always preserved a large lizard when short of food and cannot judge as to the taste of it.

Murray and Darling Scrub.

This Hapalotis is very plentiful on the Banks of the Murray and Darling gregarious and nocturnal in its habits and lives on trees where it constructs a sort of nest in some hollow branch. When at Chandleremin the natives would procure any quantity of them by smoking them out.

Those who were confined at the Camp became very tame and occupied a box in company with half a dozen Opossums. Some of them (the Hapalotis) made their escape but always kept near the tent with the leaves and at supper would come on the table receive or take a bit of sugar or damper and run about the place without any fear.

They are very good eating.

During the months of September or October the female produces 4 young ones which are born blind.

W

This is a very beautiful little animal and with its thick tail looks like a mineatum Fox. Its fur is very thick and as soft as swan down. It is marsupial and most of the female specimens procured during the months of August & September had from 4 to 8 foetus attached to the teats some of which were only about the size of a pea. It lives underground and is nocturnal in its habits.

The specimens which were kept alive at the Camp would hardly stir during the day time but stood about as soon as night set in.

They are very sensitive to the cold and if taken often found them nearly dead after a very cold night. They were fed mostly with animal matter and when hungry would attack and kill mice of larger size than themselves. If I did omit to supply meat or live mice in abundance they would turn to attack and devour each other during the night.

I observed again a very curious construction in this species and I refer to the drawings made at Chandleremin.



G. R.

W

a very few of this little animal have been secured during the expedition and I can furnish no further particulars as to its habits etc.

The live specimens at the Camp occupied the same box with the thick tailed Podabrus which it resembles very much. It is marsupial and gregarious in its habits. I should observe that the Podabrus as well as this insect and also the Dasynus very seldom bury their ears much but always pulled in as shown in the sketch of the Podabrus in the horseshoe.

G. R.

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10 <del>61</del>	Dusky mouse. Pethack & V. & V.	1334 1395 1682 1057	4
<del>62</del>			
<del>63</del>			
11 <del>64</del>	large eared Bat	686. 1889.	2
12 <del>65</del>	Bat	1185.	1
<del>66</del>			
<del>67</del>			
13 <del>68</del>	Australian Field mouse 818. 1003 Mus nova Hollandiae 822 1661. Kunang & V. & V.		4
<del>69</del>			
<del>70</del>			
14 <del>71</del>	Hydromys Chrysogaster 685. 743. Golden bellied Beaver Rat ? & V. & V.		2
<del>72</del>			
<del>73</del>	Serboa Kangaroo	657. — (469) (supp) (supp) (supp)	5
<del>74</del>			
75	Piramelis fasciata (444) (1115) (1948) } young Banded Piramelis 1153. 2076 1949 } Mongoose of the natives adult		6
76			
77			
78			
79			
80			

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Murray & Darling  
Scumbe

This mouse is also procured in large numbers by the Blackfellows who dig them out of the ground. The specimens kept alive at the camp would always eat each other. They appear to me nocturnal in their habits the female producing about 4 young ones during the months of August & September. They are not marsupial natives use to eat them. — J.K.

NO

very little information from able to give concerning this bat. It was found in the hollow branch of a tree where I heard it making a noise during the day time. J.K.

NO

There is some superstitious traditions connected with this Bat, among the Gunbarver natives. I had caught a Bat in the tent and was just going to skin it when a young native interfered telling me, that <sup>the Bat</sup> was (brother belonging to Blackfellow) and that if I killed the bat, his brother would be killed (by some unknown agency I suppose) J.K.

Distributed all over the Murray Scumbe this animal can be obtained by the natives in any quantity, and the stones at the little houses have their supply of this little mouse which is very fond of sugar etc. It is eaten by the natives at number of young ones about 4. — not marsupial J.K.

This Rat was procured at Lake Boga but it is also found in most all the lagoons and waterpools near the Murray. It is nocturnal in its habits and produces from 2 to 4 young ones. — in Dec. & January J.K.

Gunbarver Creek

This little person was not observed farther down the Murray, than Reddy Lake. It is nocturnal ~~but~~ when observed during the day time generally takes shelter in some hollow log. It is marsupial produces only one pupus at the time and is very good to eat. — J.K.

Murray Scumbe

This Perameles inhabits the Scumbe and refuses during the day time in a hollow log or a hole it feeds during the night. It is very voracious and animal matter these. Keps at the camp would hear confinement very well they used to saw through a sort of covered nest with any grass etc drink a great deal and as expert as a cat for catching and killing mice. One of these Perameles Porcupine needle grass escaped and was observed for months after to stalk in the bush and hunt the mice during the night which did some damage to the flax Bays. When a live mouse was put into the box the Perameles would attack it very cautiously always turning the mouse about with his fore feet just like a cat. Once I put 4 mice into the box which first bewildered the Perameles but he soon commenced to make chase

Though the natives have two distinct names for this animal yet I cannot believe that they really differ from each other. One is called "Thill" and is found in dense scrub and among the Porcupine needle grass and the other found in a different locality might have accustomed the diff names (the latter is called "Mencax")



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Weight & Measurements of

81	Yellowcat	20 1/4 Orlongta 14 1/2 Tail 4 1/2 Tarsus & Toes 2 1/4 Arm & Hand 3 1/4	3
	Thin	13 1/4 14 4 2 1/4 3 1/4	3

82

83

84

85

86

*Belkonia rufescens?* 1496. 1796. 1860 2699  
*Rufus hanc Kangaroo* 1795. 1782. (1499. 1575)  
*Tunnus statim etiam* <sup>shipped</sup>

8.

87

88

89

90

91

92

*Belkonia pincillata* 2105 1926  
*Verba Kangaroo* (2159) (1919)  
*Possus statim etiam* 1222

4

94

As White Fox Tail

1

95

96

97

98 *Belkonia Grayi* 1756 1755  
*Gray Verba* 1245 1754  
 99 *Possus statim etiam*

4



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Weights  
Measurements  
Yellow cat 20 1/4 oz  
1 Thick 13 1/4.

caught and broke the legs of it, and so in  
soon disabled all four ~~legs~~ to run away  
when he commenced feeding at the one  
he ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> first but without <sup>successfully</sup> killing it.  
~~caught~~ This Pirameles is marsupial  
the pouch is upwards not downwards  
as in the Haemaphysalis chamber of teeth  
in female. It produces 3 foetus  
during July and August, when the old  
one carries about him they are well  
covered with fur they do not leave  
the mother even when born most  
likely keep near her until another  
foetus is produced and put on the  
teat. — G. K.

A nocturnal animal which lives  
during the Day time in the thick scrub  
the hind legs and proportionate  
the longest of all the Macropodidae and  
the jumps it makes are most extra-  
ordinary. It had and confined at the  
Camp which cleared a standing jump  
a wind fence of 7' high. The natives and  
found of its flesh. ~~It~~ <sup>the natives</sup> it is not  
caught by their dogs in its lair they  
never get it after warms. It does not  
become so tame as the other species  
of Wallaby etc. —

From account of its swiftness

The female produces one foetus,  
as I suppose early in the year as those  
female specimens produced during the  
months of May and June had old  
young and of considerable size in  
the pouch. The color of the foetus is  
very dark bluish black. —

Number of Teats 4 (?)

G. K.

This little possum inhabits the thick scrub  
and is never seen during the day time  
if not accidentally destroyed. It is  
marsupial and produces one foetus  
at the time. It does not dig in the  
ground but constructs a sort of nest  
with dry leaves grasses etc.

Some of these animals who were con-  
fined at the Camp made their escape  
by climbing up, and the pine logs of  
the enclosure, a height of 7 feet. I have  
often seen them climb up, as I used  
to watch them for I could not understand  
how they escaped. They are very fond of bread. G. K.

I have never met with this Pterodroma  
on the Victoria side of the Murray but  
on the N.W. side it is found in  
abundance. There is no sandhill  
near the "Booming" of the natives has  
not a warren, and it is astonishing to  
see how much sand this little animal  
will remove during a night.  
From 3 to 20 and more live together  
but they are never seen during the  
day time. An hour or two after  
Sun

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Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
<del>101</del>			
<del>102</del>			
<del>103</del>			
<del>104</del>			
105			
106	<i>Phascogale lanigera</i> 1429. <sup>Skinned</sup> Woolly Phascogale Native name		1
107			
108			
109			
110	<i>Phascogale calura</i> 1225. 1541. <sup>Skinned</sup> Handsome tailed Phascogale Kularr native name		2
111			
112			
113	<i>Chocropus occidentalis?</i> 2858. 2016. — . 2918. 2006 1900 Skulls Lardwanag native name. <sup>?</sup> <small>The above 4 specimens are stuffed</small>		6
114			
115			
116			
117			
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119			
120			

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dawn, they leave their Warren and  
hop about on the sand in search of  
the Bulbous roots of which they are  
very fond. — They make a short  
singing noise and are easily shot.  
Their flesh is very good eating. —  
They produce one Jackus at the kind  
number of seeds 4 (?)  
One of these animals which was kept  
in confinement at the Camp would  
not become tame at all, and at last  
killed itself by jumping against the  
cover of the box. —

Nov. dell'anno.

This is a very rare animal and only  
one or two specimens of it, have been  
procured, it is marsupial and nocturnal  
in its habits. The one specimen, which  
has been kept alive at the Camp was  
killed by "Chas. Craig" and the other  
was kept in the same box. —  
I can give no information respecting  
the number of young ones in this animal  
as both specimens which came under  
my notice were male. —

Nov 25<sup>th</sup> 1891

and so is this species very rare and was kept at the Camp in confinement for a few days but died with cold and rigor there is now specimen, if it are not this is a female preserved in spirits I did not take any notes respecting this species only that it is marsupial and of nocturnal habits. —

Chondellum

all the specimens  
procured on the  
E. S. W side of the  
Murray. I have been  
informed by a young  
lad<sup>r</sup> at Mr. M. Callums  
Station that the  
Choenopus had been  
seen there and that  
his brother obtained a  
specimen but had  
been unable to secure  
it. The natives call  
it jaw bone there.  
Mr. M. Callums Station  
is at least 100 miles  
from Howdellville  
(up the river). —

This Specimen procured first during the month of October (on the 4th) the natives had secured it in the snow and it was secured by their dogs. It does not run very fast and is often found in hollow trees etc. It constructs a sort of nest or burrow with dry grass and leaves and only feeds at night a sort of coarse dry grass not unlike Barley (coarse) grass. I showed to me by the natives an which it feeds. When in a natural state it does not feed on flesh etc as all the dung which I had subsequently seen was entirely composed of vegetable matter about the size but not as heavy as sheep dung. I have been told of these animals were kept at the camp were they constructed (like all other animals) a sort of Burrow with dry grass. Kept under it and kept quiet all day, as soon as the sun was down they came out and began to feed on coarse grass, lettuce and even tried a piece of raw Beef which I had put, into the Burrow. Their eyes are <sup>very large and</sup> ~~of a~~ most brilliant

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121			
122			
123			
124			
125			
126			
127			
128	<i>Peragalea lagotis</i> 2643. 1860. 1706. <i>large eared Peragalea</i> <i>Muirnappur et al. Murray Tribes</i> <i>Sakko et al. Darling Tribes</i>		3
129			
130			
131			
132			
133			
134			
135			
136	<i>Diplanther Rufus</i> 7788. 1903. 1980. <i>Great Red Kangaroo</i> <i>et alive et. ?</i>	<i>shipped</i>	3 2.
137			
138			
139			
140			



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in fact I do not think there is another animal among the mammals of Australia which has finer eyes than this little Chaeropus.

I refer to the Pungolin again, and beg to state that the eyes on the figures of this animal in Mr. Goulet's work are too small, by half.

The female has 8 teats, but though I found 3 female specimens with young ones none procured them were never more than two teats found in which with a pouch attached to each.

this was ultimo October so that I think the pouches must have been put on the teats about beginning of Sept.

The Chaeropus is very good to eat and the natives did not like much to part with the specimens they had procured.

The pouch is upwards as in the other Peromyscus.

A very rare animal procured near the junction of the Darling it burrows into the ground but neither so extensive nor with so many outlets as the Beldingia Grayi. Nor are its habits gregarious. It is marsupial and the pouch, the opening of which is upwards contains generally from two to three pouches.

The fur is magnificent silky texture & very long. The forearms very strong with powerful claws for digging, the eye small. I could not procure a specimen alive, but I think that P. lagotis lives generally on bulbous roots grass &c. This is the animal of which Mr. Be reports that it devoured the bodies of dead natives which I believe I am able to corroborate so far that I have seen one of the Burrows of this P. at the edge of a native sepulchre.

Although this species is to be found on both Banks of the Murrumbidgee all the specimens procured, were killed near to the Darling Junction. The specimens now in the Museum are no criterion as to the size this beautiful Kangaroo obtains for far larger specimens have been seen but could not be secured for want of good shooting days. All the days at my command were not of sufficient strength to stop the course of one of these red Boomers. I have seen a fine Kangaroo Bitch but of slender make and in poor condition dragged along the ground for several hundred yards by one of these great Red Kangaroos to the tail of which she had fastened

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F  
Measurements of Common Scrub Kangaroos  
Length of Body from tip to tip 6' 10"  
Tail 3' 5"  
round the body 3. 5"  
round the head 16"  
hand 4"  
longest nail 1 1/4"  
hind leg without tarsus 2'  
Tarsus 14 1/2"  
Shoulder to elbow 11 1/2"  
face to Basis of ear 8 1/4"  
ear 5 1/2"  
root of tail round 16"

J. K.

Common Scrub Kangaroos	1457	1684	Measurements as above	5.
Buller's Kangaroo	1237	1902		

Canis Dingo	2246	Shipped	2
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and she had to let go her hold before the other dogs and the natives could come to the rescue. The Kangaroos feed very early in the morning and after sun down. During the day time it sits in the shelter of some shrub having dug up the ground about a foot deep to keep itself cool. — The natives prize their meat very much but more skill, Kangaroos fat, of which there is only very little on the animal with the exception of the tail or hump. — They dry & prepare the skin using it as a sort of bag to carry their ornaments in, the teeth and used for ornamenting their person. — When hard pressed the Kangaroos will take to the nearest shallow water and there stand at bay, trying to drown the dogs as they approach. The natives are very expert in tracking it and they will follow a Kangaroo for days without food until they have attained their object. They have their own superstitions of this account and they would not touch anything to eat so long as they were following the track. They would always blame me for it if they lost a Kangaroo, as I used to refresh myself with a creeping plant very plentiful on the salt bush plains there? in spite of their remonstrances. — This Kangaroo carries only one foetus at the time there is one in spirit which a female dropped during the chase it is about 2 months old of this number of years? 4/12

The habits etc of this Kangaroo and the same as those of *Canis rufus* is is very common on both sides of the Murray and good to eat. —

only a few specimens of this genus could be procured as the poison of the settlers has made sad havoc among them. They sleep in the thickest scrub in large hollow trees and nocturnal and the female produces a litter of about 4 young ones. There are some differences in the coloring some dogs are yellow some black. The natives eat this dog. —

# CATALOGUE OF THE MUSEUM OF

Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
161	<i>Peramices obscura</i> 1269 1155 Short nosed <i>Peramices</i> 1152 1433. <i>Perrin</i> (Native name)		4
162			
163			
164			
165			
166	<i>Orychogaster fraenata</i> ? 2297 1873 1899 <i>Bridled tail tailed Kangaroo</i> ? <i>Pachymelus Coloniatus</i> 2329 1917 <i>Merri</i> (Native name)		8.
167			
168			
169			
170			
171	<i>Crossum</i>	1359 1360 1420 1431	4
172			
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# NATURAL HISTORY OF VICTORIA.

Locality whence obtained.

Donor's Name.

Remarks.

The habits of this animal are similar to those of *P. fasciata* it keeps during the day time in hollow logs or in a burrow. and comes out after dark to feed, lives on roots grasses and also on meat as those kept at the camp were fed on meat only it would kill any quantity of mice if they were put into its box.

Produces 3 foetus Pouch upmanus and very deep stunner of seals?

Specimens with foetus found from July to October.

This animal is very good to eat and there is nothing in the Opossum which more resembles in taste a sucking pig than *P. obesa*. —

A very common Wallaby distributed over a large tract of country during the day time it keeps in the thick scrub on sand hills and feeds at night. —

It is easily tamed and a number of those kept at the camp would eat from the hand allow themselves to be caressed without evincing any fear.

Challee Scrub

This is too well known an animal, so I can add nothing new or interesting to its habits or economy.

I have never found more than one foetus in the pouch most of the females had one young attached to the teat during the months of August & Sept & October.

I have found this Opossum sometimes 20 miles from water in the Challee and they were in such abundance that some of the natives who accompanied me, procured about 9 within an hour. — They are very easy to be got in the Challee as it is less work for the natives to cut them out the trees being scrubby and not so high nor so thick as on the River Banks.

Those kept at the camp became very tame and would eat meat as well as vegetable food. I often tried if they would kill mice etc but they never took any notice of them.

About 10 White Lipped Hapalosi occupied the same box and agreed very well together.

J. Krepps

Repsiles

# CATALOGUE OF THE MUSEUM OF

Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
181		<i>Reptiles etc</i>	
182	Striped Lizard	2321 19790 1923. 2242 629	5
183	Spotted Lizard	2350 2245 2335. 2255	4
184	Sleeping do	1981 758 385 <i>Striped</i> 2000 591	4
185	Sea Lizard	2066 1441. 2257	3
186	Turtle	759 1656	1
187	do	663.	1
188	Carpet Snake	379 1101. 969	3
189	Copper brown do	871	1
190	Olive green banded do	861	1
191			
192			
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200			

# NATURAL HISTORY OF VICTORIA.

Locality whence obtained.

Donor's Name.

Remarks.

Chatter Scute

UV

UV

UV

Gumbower Creek

UV

Chatter Scute

UV

UV

All these lizards live in holes which they dig into the sandy ground of the Chatter Scute and in which they sleep during the rainy season in a <sup>downy</sup> state of the first two species live on small Birds and other lizards and when they are powerful enough even on Opodums etc.

I have shot one of the larger species at Chatter Scute which had swallowed a full grown Opodums etc.

The sleeping lizard & few lizards are also living underground and I think that September is the first month when they leave their winter quarters as I have seen all four species of lizards in warm sunny days lying in front of their holes.

They endure a great deal of hunger and I have kept a number of these animals for 4 and 5 months at the Camp without food or water at the end of this time they were as lively as ever.

The first mentioned two species are very good eating and many a time I have made a meal of them when nothing else was to be had.

Of the habits of the Turtles I know very little, the turtles collected and all from Gumbower Creek where they must be very plentiful during the dry season of the year as several native tribes were assembling at this Creek in February March for the sole purpose of procuring fish and turtles.

The Turtle also endures a great deal of hunger and will live for weeks without water. I kept several at the Camp in a Box with a Bucket full of water in it. The Turtle was constantly jumping out of the Bucket into the Box and I had to put it back again several times during the day; at last I left it in the dry box where it thrived as well as ever it was kept at the Camp about 3 months and arrived with Mr. Plan as was his collection alive in Melbourne and all this time it lived without food!

I dreamed they fed on water weeds and I was so anxious to see as I had been told by Mr. Williams of Gall Gall that he often caught Turtles with the backs to which a <sup>bit</sup> of meat had been fastened. They are caught by the natives in Nets and with the fishing Spear.

I should also mention here that I once received a turtle from a native which had been ~~run~~ through, with a spear. I kept this turtle for 3 months when the wound was healed up again.

J. Knapp

Lizards

CATALOGUE OF THE MUSEUM OF

Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
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# NATURAL HISTORY OF VICTORIA.

Locality whence obtained.

Donor's Name.

Remarks.

of snakes there is a variety in the  
 cunning & daring & one of all  
 species assured drawings have been  
 made on the spot. — (Note: For. folio)  
 Most all the snakes are considered  
 dangerous by the natives and are  
 much abhorred by them with the exception  
 of a Carpet Snake. —  
 Billy one of the Gail Gail natives had  
 his hip bit in my presence by a  
 Carpet Snake, He proved to me, that  
 the bite of this reptile was harmless.  
 They live on small Birds and for this  
 purpose climb any of the high Eucalypts.  
 Before I conclude I must correct  
 an error of judgment in Mr Planowski's  
 observations of the habits of this snake.  
 Mr Pl mentioned that the Carpet  
 Snake used the rudiments of feet on  
 the abdomen for the purpose of climbing  
 which is not so. The experiment was  
 made with a Carpet Snake at  
 Gunbower in the presence of Mr Plan  
 owski, Mr Gardner of the Gunbower  
 Station and myself it was only by  
 the aid of the immense muscular  
 power, that the Snake was enabled  
 to make <sup>her</sup> ascent on a smooth  
 Eucalyptus which had not a branch  
 within 20 feet from the ground. Even  
 if the feet had been used Mr Planowski  
 could not have seen it as he kept as  
 well as the rest of <sup>the</sup> spectators at a  
 safe distance. — After the Snake  
 had been thrown down by a native  
 the tree was inspected, but neither in  
 fissures nor any kind of Bark crevices  
 found, which might have aided the  
 Snake in the ascent, in fact it  
 never occurred to Mr Pl or myself  
 that such a small <sup>thing</sup> as the Carpet Snake  
 could be used for the purpose mentioned.  
 I have had many a specimen under  
 my observation and have always kept  
 them alive at the Camp but I have  
 never in any single instance observed  
 that the Snake had even the power to  
 move those two little spurs and yet  
 Mr Pl makes her walk up a tree with  
 them.

J. Krefft.

CATALOGUE OF THE MUSEUM OF

Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
221			
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**NATURAL HISTORY OF VICTORIA.**

Locality whence obtained.	Donor's Name.	Remarks.

CATALOGUE OF THE MUSEUM OF

Museum Number.	Name of Specimen.	Description of the Specimen.	Number of Specimens.
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